lower than that in the previous years. However, there has been no deterioration of educational atmosphere discouraging the foreign students from taking admission in Indian universities. The marginal decline in enrolment of foreign students might be due to the ongoing tension on the Indo-Pak border and the advice given by certain foreign countries to their students to delay their departure for India till such time the situation is improved.

Experimental Infrastructure in Educational Institutions

†2589. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the science education of the primitive age is being imparted in all the colleges, schools and universities of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that laboratories of most of the colleges in the country are not equipped with experiment-related instruments and other materials; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. (SHRIMATI) RITA VERMA): (a) and (b) According to the information furnished by the University Grants Commission (UGC), Science education in the colleges and universities is imparted as per the syllabus of the concerned university. However, UGC has recently framed model curricula at undergraduate and postgraduate level in various disciplines of 32 subjects, including Science. The UGC has requested all the universities either to adopt it in toto or to adopt it after making necessary amendments or to adopt it after deletion/addition or to adopt it after making any change whatsoever, which the university may consider right.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

In so far as Science Education in the Schools is concerned, the NCERT has informed that there is an inbuilt mechanism to periodically revise and update the curriculum, syllabus and text books of science developed by the NCERT for schools.

(c) and (d) The UGC provides grants to such colleges which have been included under Section 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC Act, 1956 for purchase of laboratory equipment required in the laboratories of the colleges under College Development Scheme.

During the 9th Plan period, UGC, under the scheme of one time grant to universities/colleges for upgradation of libraries and laboratories, has also provided a grant of Rs. 7.0 lakh each to those eligible colleges which were established before 1950 and between 1951 —1955 and were receiving developmental assistance from the UGC during the 9th Plan period. This grant was given for purchase of books & journals in the library, laboratory equipment directly related to UG and PG courses and equipment related to teaching aids, which would help in improving the level of teaching.

Night schools for working adults

2590. SHRI RANGANATH MISRA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of night schools functioning in Rajasthan, during the last five years;

(b) how many of them are still running;

(c) whether it is a fact that the night schools programme to educate working adults has taken a back seat; and

(d) whether Government plan to revive the programme by introducing some vocational courses for Rajasthan and for the entire country?